ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The combination of narrowband applications with broadband transport may be enabled with a communications architecture, in which one or more Media Gateways (MGs) that include broadband switching fabric are controlled by a Media Gateway Controller (MGC) that includes switching intelligence and narrowband switching fabric. A new data structure is provided in the MGC to identify bandwidth allocation on all traffic trunks interconnecting MGs controlled by the MGC. The new data structure can further maintain quality data representing the quality of packet transmissions in the broadband network data. The new data structure enables the MGC to monitor congestion in the broadband network and to allocate bandwidth more efficiently.